

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005 AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Alton McCollum.

COUNCILPERSONS: Buddy Sandifer, Frances Johnson, David Walker, Alex Boykin, and Nancy Foster. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Fire Chief Timmie Taylor, Police Chief George Morris, Phyllis Overstreet, Jim Reed, J.D. Mathis, Stephannie Ransom, Eric Bamberg, and Kevin Sandifer.

Mayor McCollum called the meeting to order and Councilman Walker gave the invocation.

Clerk Watson took the roll with everyone being present except Councilperson Mack, Councilperson Foster and Councilman Boykin. Clerk Watson informed Council that Councilperson Mack had called to say she was sick and that Councilperson Foster had called to say she would be running a little late.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to approve the agenda as received. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The hearing for Mr. Elliott Walker was not held since he was not present.

Councilman Walker made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2005 meeting as received. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilman Walker made the motion to approve the Budget and Finance Report as presented. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Under Commission Reports.

Councilman Sandifer reported that the BCEDC had met today and that everything was about the same as last month.

He reported that the Police Department had been awarded a \$2,000.00 radar unit. He commended the officers for their award.

Councilman Sandifer reported that Cogburn Auction Company would be auctioning an old police car next week.

Councilman Boykin entered the meeting in progress.

Chief Morris, thanking Council for all they do for the Department, reported to Council that the department was having a lot of problems with students from Job Corps kicking in doors of old buildings and being on properties without permission. Chief Morris said the students were roaming the streets and causing a lot of problems.

Councilman Sandifer asked if the City had jurisdiction over the Job Corps Facility.

Chief Morris informed Council that the Police Department had full jurisdiction at the Job Corps Facility since they were in the City.

Councilman Sandifer presented School Resource Officers Eric Bamberg and Stephannie Ransom with plaques for their hard work in helping to solve a very difficult case. He and Chief Morris praised them for their work.

Councilperson Johnson reported that everything in the Sanitation Department was running well and said she had no report for the Chamber of Commerce at that time.

Councilman Walker reported that the Fire Department was doing well. He informed Council that the Fire Department wished to use the birm to raise money to send a burned child to camp.

Chief Taylor explained that the department wished to use the birm on June 11th to raise funds to send a child to camp.

Kevin Sandifer explained that the department would have games, a dunking booth and cookout on the birm to hopefully raise \$500.00 which would send one burned child to camp. He explained that the camp allowed the children to participate in fishing and camping events which he felt would help them build self esteem.

Councilman Sandifer made the motion to allow the Fire Department o use the birm on June 11th. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilman Boykin reported to Council that everything was going well. He reported that two new bleachers had been purchased for the Ness Park and that around 500 kids were participating in this year's baseball program. Councilman Boykin said this year's baseball program consisted of 27 teams.

Councilman Walker made the motion to approve the request of \$500.00 from the Bamberg Youth Baseball Program. Councilman Sandifer made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson informed Council that Job Corps students had built 100 concrete parking lot bumpers to be placed on the new parking area between the baseball fields and Birch Street. Clerk Watson told Council that they had donated the bumpers to the City.

Councilman Sandifer informed Council that Job Corps saved the City \$2,500.00. Council was very thankful for Job Corps help.

Under New Business.

After Clerk Watson and Chief Morris explained the MASC Setoff Debt Program to Council, Councilman Walker made the motion to approve Resolution 2005-2 to join the MASC Setoff Debt Program. Councilman Sandifer made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to reappoint Mrs. Barb Pinson and Mr. Edward McDonald to the Bamberg Planning Commission for another four year term. Councilman Sandifer made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to reappoint Mrs. Delores Bunch, Mr. Johnny Bamberg and Mrs. Stephannie Mitchell to the Bamberg Rehabilitation 504 Grievance

Committee for another four year term. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

During the discussion of the garbage contract, Mr. Jim Reed informed Council that he wished to renew the contract for an additional five years. He said he was here to receive any concerns from Council and the citizens.

Councilman Sandifer informed Mr. Reed that he had received a few complaints that some of his workers were not picking up trash that had spilled when they dumped the green carts.

Mr. Reed assured Council that he would talk to his crew and address the issue at once.

Mr. Reed said he wished to renew the contract for five years skipping the 4% increase for this year.

Councilman Sandifer voiced that he felt renewing the contract for five years was to long since most of Council would not be here in two years.

Councilperson Johnson voiced that the contract should not be renewed for more than three years.

Clerk Watson explained that Council could decide to renew the contract with Mr. Reed or go back out for proposals for garbage service. He said Council must understand that any contractor would have an initial investment in equipment that would take time to recoup.

Councilman Sandifer made the motion to continue service with Southland Sanitation and to have a three year contract drawn up with the company. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to have an ordinance drawn up to accept the .22 acres that Mr. Virgil Hicks wished to donate to the City on Log Branch Road. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that a hearing for Mr. Elliott Walker needed to be scheduled for the next meeting once he had been officially served with the time, date and location.

Councilperson Foster entered the meeting in progress.

During the announcements, Councilperson Foster informed Council that twelve contestants had participated in the Miss Sesquicentennial Pageant in which three were crowned winners. She said the winners would be representing the City throughout the year. Councilperson Foster praised Kim Trantham for the great job she had done with the pageant.

Councilman Sandifer informed Council that the Budget Committee was meeting and he said the budget would be tight again this year.

He said the budget was growing bigger each year. Saying he was a taxpayer, Councilman Sandifer said the departments' needs would have to come first.

Chief Taylor urged Council to look to see if the City had an ordinance that dealt with the numbering of homes. He explained that the County had an ordinance but that they had no one to enforce the ordinance. Chief Taylor said when someone is breaking into your home or when it is on fire it is too late to learn that the home could not be found due to improper numbering.

Mayor McCollum asked Clerk Watson to look into the matter.

Councilman Sandifer asked Chief Taylor if he had heard anything from County Council concerning the City's request for the \$10,000.00 increase in the County Fire Contract for the new year.

Chief Taylor said he had heard nothing and informed Council that the County had not mentioned anything about the countywide study that was performed by the consultant.

Councilman Sandifer said the study done by the consultant was supposed to be completed by now.

Mayor McCollum said Council needed to hear something by the next meeting and he asked that a discussion of the contract be placed on next month's agenda.

Clerk Watson urged Council to wait a while for County Council's response before making any decisions.

With no further business, Councilperson Johnson made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Attest:

Clerk

Mayor